

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internat

PCT/US04/25395

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A01N 1/00

US CL : 435/2

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 435/2

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
CAONLINE, MEDLINE, WPIDS, USPATFUL

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	NAKAO et al., Isosmotic sucrose, adenine, inosine media for preservation of blood. Biomedica Biochimica Acta 1983, Vol 42, No 5, pages 527-35, especially page 528, Results and Figures 1 and 3.	1-3, 5-6, 11-13
X	EROGLU et al. Intracellular trehalose improves the survival of cryopreserved mammalian cells. Nature Biotechnology 2000, Vol. 18, pages 163-167, especially page 163, Results and discussion.	4

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"B" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T"

later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&"

document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

27 September 2005 (27.09.2005)

Date of mailing of the international search report

17 NOV 2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201

Authorized officer

Sandra Saucier

Telephone No.

Jamahl D. D...

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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
Please See Continuation Sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: 1-13

Remark on Protest

☐

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.

☐

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.

☐

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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BOX III. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING

This International Search Authority has found 11 inventions claimed in the International Application covered by the claims indicated below:

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be examined, the appropriate additional examination fees must be paid.

Group I, claims 1-13, drawn to a first method, a method of loading a solute into a red cell using an hyperosmotic solution.

Group II, claims 14-16, drawn to first composition, a red cell loaded with 10-50mM trehalose.

Group III, claims 17, 18, drawn to a second method, a method for separating damaged red cells from a population comprising contacting the red cells with a hyperosmotic solution, contacting with hypoosmotic solution, separating the cells.

Group IV, claims 19 and 23, drawn to a third method, a method for freeze-drying red cells by lowering the hematocrit to 2-5%.

Group V, claims 20-21, 24, 25 a fourth method, a method for freeze-drying red cells by drying the cells with liposomes and a buffer therefor.

Group VI, claims 22, a fifth method, a method for freeze-drying red cells with 200-300 mOsm potassium salts.

Group VII, claim 26, a second composition, a buffer comprising ascorbic acid and buffer.

Group VIII, claim 27 and 32, a third composition, a buffer comprising methylene blue and buffer and a method of use thereof.

Group IX, claims 28, 29, 33, a fourth composition, a buffer comprising transition metal ions, buffer and a method of use thereof.

Group X, claims 30, 34, a fifth composition, a solution for rehydration comprising ascorbic acid and a method of use thereof.

Group XI, claims 31 and 35, a sixth composition, a solution for rehydration comprising methylene, blue, ascorbic acid and transition metal ions and a method of use thereof.

1. This International Searching Authority considers that the international application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention (Rules 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3) for the reasons indicated below:

The inventions listed as Groups I-XI do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

An international stage application containing claims to different categories of invention will be considered to have unity of invention if the claims are drawn only to one of the of following combinations of categories;

(1) a product and a process specially adapted for the manufacture of said product; or

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- (2) a product and a process of use of said product; or
- (3) a product, a process specially adapted for the manufacture of the said product, and a use of the said product; or
- (4) a process and a apparatus specifically designed for carrying out said process; or
- (5) a product, a process specially adapted for the manufacture of the said product and an apparatus specifically designed for carrying out said process. 37 CFR 1.475.

PCT Rule 13 does not provide for multiple compositions or multiple methods of use within a single application. Thus, the first appearing composition is combined with a corresponding first method of use and the additional composition and method claims each constitute a separate group.

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